

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 and 10-31 were pending. By amendment herein, claims 11 and 32 have been amended to make explicit what was previously implicit, namely to specify that the chemokine is a BLC chemokine. Accordingly, claims 21 and 22 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, claims 1-7, 10, 11, 16-20 and 23-32 are pending as shown above.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1-7, 10 and 30 were allowed and claim 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

REJECTIONS WITHDRAWN

Applicants note with appreciation that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 based on Hurwitz and Chandrashekar have all been withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 102(E)

Claims 11, 16-21, 25-29 and 31 were again rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,569,418 (hereinafter "Garzino-Demo"). (Office Action, page 4).

Independent claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 22. Therefore, the rejection has been obviated.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly unpatentable over Garzino-Demo in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,297,048 (hereinafter "Jolly"). (Office Action, page 5).

For the reasons noted above, the foregoing amendments obviate this rejection and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION


For the reasons state above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims define an invention that is novel, non-obvious, fully enabled and described by the specification. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of the claims be withdrawn, and that the application proceed to allowance.

Please direct all further communications regarding this application to:

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Date: November 8, 2004

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